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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, MARCH 12, 1999

APPLICATION OF

SHENTEL COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY

CASE NO. PUC980180

For a certificate of public
convenience and necessity to
provide local exchange
telecommunications services

FINAL ORDER

On November 25, 1998, ShenTel Communications Company ("ShenTel" or "the Company") filed an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity ("certificate") to provide local exchange telecommunications services throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, except those portions of the Counties of Shenandoah, Rockingham, and Frederick, and municipalities within them, wherein its affiliate, Shenandoah Telephone Company, is the incumbent local exchange carrier. By Order dated December 22, 1998, the Commission directed the Company to provide notice to the public of its application, directed the Commission Staff to conduct an investigation and file a report, and scheduled a public hearing to receive evidence relevant to ShenTel's application. On February 16, 1999, Staff filed its report finding that ShenTel's application was in compliance with the Commission's Local Rules.

A hearing was conducted on March 9, 1999, at which time ShenTel filed all proofs of publication and proof of service as required by the scheduling order dated December 22, 1998. At the hearing, the proof of notice, the application and accompanying attachments, and the Staff's report, as amended, were entered into the record without objection.

Having considered the application and the Staff's report, the Commission finds that ShenTel should be granted a certificate to provide local exchange telecommunications services. Accordingly,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) ShenTel Communications Company hereby is granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity, No. T-436, to provide local exchange telecommunications services throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, except those portions of the Counties of Shenandoah, Rockingham, and Frederick, and municipalities within them, wherein its affiliate, Shenandoah Telephone Company, is the incumbent local exchange carrier. This certificate is granted subject to the restrictions set forth in the Commission's Rules for Local Exchange Telephone Competition, § 56-265.4:4 of the Code of Virginia, and the provisions of this Order.

(2) ShenTel shall provide tariffs to the Division of Communications which conform with all applicable Commission rules and regulations.

(3) There being nothing further to come before the Commission, this case shall be dismissed and the papers herein placed in the file for ended causes.